

24 April 1974

DDI-547-74

MEMORANDUM FOR: Associate Deputy Director for Intelligence

SUBJECT : Decontrol and Public Sale of FBIS Daily Reports

1. This memorandum is intended as a final update on the status of the FBIS Daily Report decontrol project which I reviewed for you in my 13 March memorandum. As I noted then 1 April was established as the target date for publishing eight rather than six Daily Report volumes; for placing these volumes on sale through the National Technical Information Service, Department of Commerce; introducing an annex containing information in need of copyright protection; and discontinuation of the FBIS White Book.

2. We met the 1 April target date and by and large the transition has gone very smoothly. Complaints and hitches have been minor. We have, for example, received a few complaints over the demise of the White Book (Stephen Rosenfeld of the Washington POST sent the most recent) and over the NTIS subscription cost of the volumes now available to the public. A few Government recipients of the Daily Reports were unhappy over the use of the annex with its FOUO caveat, noting that it has complicated their filing, indexing and disposal systems. And NTIS informed us at the last minute that it could not provide new public subscribers with Daily Reports until 1 May, not 1 April as originally promised. PSD, however, stepped into the breach and made arrangements to mail volumes to these customers until NTIS can pick them up. As of now there are 456 paid subscriptions to various Daily Report volumes.

3. We had anticipated some difficulty with Congressional recipients due to the delay in our letters informing them of the changeover. This delay, you will recall, resulted from OLC's concern and ultimate recommendation that we drop the proposed PRIVILEGED INFORMATION caveat for the annex. As it turned out, most of the 63 Congressional recipients have responded to our requests that they revalidate their requirements and there have been no complaints from the Hill. The responses from American embassies overseas including some DDO Stations have not been as prompt and we will be cutting some of them off if they do not confirm their requirements following a second query. All the bulk customers, both within and without the Agency, have given us the guidance we needed.

4. With the changeover to the new system, FBIS is now publishing on request some 5,700 Daily Report volumes each day. While this represents little change from the 5,900 volumes published daily before the changeover (but confirms the strong continuing requirement for the Daily Report), the new configuration will nevertheless result in a considerable savings to PSD in paper and paper costs due to our splitting the Middle East/Africa and the Latin America/West Europe books. We currently estimate that this saving amounts to 40 tons of paper a year, or roughly 17 percent of that used under the old configuration. This results in savings of \$26,000 a year at current paper costs.

5. Thus far the Soviet Union and PRC Daily Report volumes have been the most popular, accounting for 941 and 883 daily subscriptions each. The least popular has been that on Western Europe (503 copies), followed closely by the book on Sub-Saharan Africa (520).

6. The availability of all Daily Report volumes to the public through NTIS has made it much easier for FBIS to deal with non-Government requests for free subscriptions. As a result our once sizeable list of free subscriptions, which had to be handled individually by PSD, has been reduced to two--former Ambassador Foy Kohler and the Livermore Laboratory. The Department of State strongly endorsed the Kohler request; AEC did the same for Livermore. Judging by past experience we will continue to receive requests for free direct subscriptions, but our policy will be to honor them only upon strong endorsements from sponsoring departments and agencies subject to an annual review.

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